

ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF A NEW TYPE

by
Robert N. Converse
199 Converse Drive
Plain City, OH 43064

In the Fall 2008 Volume of the Ohio Archaeologist, examples of a new type point were published, one from Wayne County and one from Highland County (Converse 58-4). The point is lozenge-shaped and has a base which slightly resembles the well-known Turkeytail found over much of the Midwest. But there are substantial differences. These points are much rarer with only a handful of them known. The base is not precisely chipped, is wider than the Turkeytail, and is indented with wide and fairly shallow notches. It shows substantial percussion flaking with minimal pressure flaking along the edges and around the base. There is little or no basal grinding.

Recently another example has come to light. Danny Brenneman of Coshocton, Ohio, reports a large 6 1/2 inch example which was found near Tappan Lake in the Harrison Tuscarawas County area. It is, except for its size, nearly identical to the point from Wayne County in the 1958 article. The Brenneman specimen is the largest one thus far reported and is also made of black Coshocton flint with a brownish-green patina.

Naming types is always a tricky and much abused practice in archaeology. It is one which has resulted in a chaotic list of non-descriptive, poorly thought-out, and

silly type names, many of which do more to salve the namer's ego than they contribute to the science. Thus I believe that calling this type a Lozenge point is appropriate - until a better name is found. It is descriptive of the general outline and, so far as I know, does not conflict with any other type name.

Because of the scarcity of this type there can be little deduced regarding its cultural affiliation. From the lack of basal grinding and the non-lenticular treatment of the blade, it is possible that it originates in Middle woodland period.



Figure 1 (Converse).
Left, Lozenge Point from the Danny Brenneman collection - 6 1/2 inches long. Right, 5 inch Lozenge point from Wayne County.

